

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 4, line 24, after the heading
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

The application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this color drawing is enclosed.

Kindly replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 1-2, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 1(a) and (b) is a flowchart for explaining a method for sectioning an image into a plurality of regions according to the present invention.

Kindly replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 2-8, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 1(a) and(b), a method for sectioning an image into a plurality of regions includes converting each pixel of an input image into color coordinates in an $L\alpha\beta$ color space and partitioning the color space into layers and bins (steps 10 and 12), obtaining an upper last circle and a lower last circle using a mean-shift analysis (steps 14 and 16), and forming and partitioning clusters (steps 18 - 26), and generating and simplifying an image graph using clusters (steps 28 - 30).